

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

02/01/02
JAN 10 2002
U.S. PTO

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Attorney Docket No.: 032404.01

Date: February 1, 2002

Customer Number: 25944

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

**CONTINUING APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL
RULE 1.53(b)**

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is a

☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-Part

application of prior pending Application No. 08/972,678, filed November 18, 1997.

For (Title): INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS

By (Inventors): Satoshi EJIMA and Akira OHMURA

1. ☒ A Declaration and Power of Attorney is attached. The attached Declaration and Power of Attorney is:
 - ☒ a. A copy of the Declaration and Power of Attorney from the parent application. (Used with the same or fewer inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application or (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter.)
 - ☐ b. A new Declaration and Power of Attorney. (Used with the same, fewer or additional inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application, (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter, or (c) a new specification.)
2. ☒ The filing fee is calculated below:

**CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION AFTER ENTRY OF
ANY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT NOTED BELOW**

FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA
BASIC FEE		
TOTAL CLAIMS	51 - 20	= 31
INDEP CLAIMS	5 - 3	= 2
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED		

* If the difference is less than zero, enter "0".

SMALL ENTITY

RATE	FEE
	\$ 370
x 9 =	\$
x 42 =	\$
+140 =	\$
TOTAL	\$

**OTHER THAN A
SMALL ENTITY**

RATE	FEE
	\$ 740
x 18	\$ 558
x 84	\$ 168
+280	\$
TOTAL	\$ 1,466

3. ☒ Check No. 127440 in the amount of \$1,466.00 to cover the filing fee is attached. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any other fees that may be required to complete this filing, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 15-0461. Two duplicate copies of this sheet are attached.
4. ☐ Cancel claims _____ of the application before calculating the filing fee. At least one independent claim is retained for filing purposes, and the PTO is requested not to enter any amendment canceling all of the claims of this application regardless of any instruction to the contrary.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION**

Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461

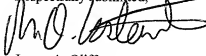
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5. ☒ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:
--This is a ☒ Continuation of Application No. 08/972,678 filed November 18, 1997. The entire disclosure of the prior application(s) is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.--
6. ☒ Formal drawings (Figs. 1-22) are attached.
☐ Use Figure _____ for front page of Publication.
7. ☒ Priority of foreign applications Nos. 8-347120 and 9-104169 filed December 26, 1996 and April 22, 1997 in Japan is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 and/or §365(b).
☒ The certified copy was filed in prior Application No. 08/972,678 on February 10, 1998.
☐ A certified copy of the above foreign application(s) is filed herewith.
8. ☒ Priority of U.S. Provisional Application(s) No. 60/041,718 filed March 27, 1997 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119.
☐ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:
--This nonprovisional application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application(s) No. _____ filed _____--
9. ☒ The prior application is assigned of record to Nikon Corporation recorded at Reel 8834, Frame 388-389.
10. ☐ This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application (37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)(1)). Delete the following inventor(s) named in the prior application:

11. ☐ A Preliminary Amendment is attached. Claims added by this Amendment are properly numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claim in the application.
12. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement is attached.
13. ☐ Small entity status:
☐ a. Entitlement to small entity status is asserted.
☐ b. Small entity status is no longer claimed.
☐ Other: _____
14. ☐ This application is NOT to be published under 35 U.S.C. 112(b). The undersigned attorney or agent hereby certifies that the invention disclosed in this application has not been and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.
15. ☐ The power of attorney in the application is to James A. Oliff, Registration No. 27,075, William P. Berridge, Registration No. 30,024, Kirk M. Hudson, Registration No. 27,562, Thomas J. Pardini, Registration No. 30,411, Edward P. Walker, Registration No. 31,450, Robert A. Miller, Registration No. 32,771, Mario A. Costantino, Registration No. 33,565, Stephen J. Roe, Registration No. 34,463, Joel S. Armstrong, Registration No. 36,430, Christopher W. Brown, Registration No. 38,025, Richard E. Rice, Registration No. 31,560, and/or Paul Tsou, Registration No. 37,956.
16. ☒ a. The power appears in the attached Declaration and Power of Attorney.
☐ b. Since the power does not appear in the attached Declaration and Power of Attorney, a substitute Power of Attorney is also attached.
17. ☒ Address all future communications to:

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Respectfully submitted,



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Mario A. Costantino
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